



Mercury and Activities on Land in SC

Incinerators

There is currently only one municipal solid waste incinerator in South Carolina, and it is located in Charleston. The commercial infectious waste incinerator in Hampton County was permanently closed in 2002. Emissions from commercial hazardous waste cement kilns are jointly regulated by DHEC's Bureau of Air Quality and Bureau of Land and Waste Management.

Mining

Since 1823, mining activities have included the use of a mercury amalgam to remove gold from rock and soil. There are a number of old gold mine sites throughout South Carolina's Piedmont that are being assessed by DHEC's Division of Site Assessment and Remediation for potential mercury contamination. This is being conducted as part of a site discovery process with region offices in the Piedmont.

Recycling

The S.C. Business Recycling Assistance Program, which offers free, non-regulatory, confidential technical assistance, offers guidance on the proper management and/or recycling of fluorescent bulbs and other mercury containing lighting. For more information on fluorescent lamp recycling visit www.scdhec.gov/brap/html/whatsnew.html.

DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling is developing a pilot program to assist schools in removing mercury-containing products. For more information, call 1-800-768-7348.